

IN HONOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S
CITY AND TOWN CLERKS

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Municipal and Town Clerks Appreciation Week to honor New Hampshire's City and Town Clerks for the hard work that they do each and every day to ensure our local governments run smoothly and that our citizens get the services they need.

Municipal clerks deliver important public services and each year interact with hundreds of members of their community. Whether maintaining public records, registering motor vehicles, licensing dogs and other pets, or administering local elections, chances are you've relied on your local clerk more than once in the last year and on countless occasions throughout your life.

During this pandemic, we've asked city and town clerks to go above and beyond under incredibly difficult circumstances. The COVID-19 pandemic necessarily shut down many aspects of society in order to keep our families and communities safe. But the work of a clerk must continue to ensure that citizens are served and that the wheels of local government continue to move forward.

Administering an election in the best of times is incredibly challenging. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks had to rewrite the playbook and develop and implement new best practices on short notice. New Hampshire residents voted in record numbers last fall, and even with an unprecedented number of ballots cast early and by mail, our elections ran as smoothly as ever because of the dedication and hard work of our municipal clerks. Providing services and maintaining vital records in the best of times is complex and time consuming. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks needed to adapt to meet the needs of their neighbors to do their job while keeping residents safe. These are no small feats, and we are grateful.

The New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Code of Ethics states: "Town and city clerks are elected and/or appointed by the citizens who have the utmost trust and faith in the clerk's ability to fairly and honestly serve their community. Let us all live up to that trust with honor and dignity." Over the last year, our municipal clerks have indeed lived up to that trust and performed their duties with honor and dignity throughout New Hampshire.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank our municipal clerks for their dedication to New Hampshire and convey the thanks of a grateful state for their continued public service.

HONORING ANNIE LOPEZ

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Annie Lopez, a nationally recognized artist and com-

munity leader in Arizona. A pioneer of the Phoenix art scene, Ms. Lopez shattered barriers to elevate the work of local and Latino artists across our state, and her living legacy deserves to be etched in our historical record for all to remember.

At a young age, she discovered her passion and vision for the arts. In 1982, Ms. Lopez became a member of the Movimiento Artístico del Río Salado (MARS), a nationally acclaimed Chicano Arts organization. Ms. Lopez made it her mission to re-define how Chicano art is perceived in the broader art community. She became an immediate sensation, captivating audiences through her storytelling focused on her own experiences in Arizona and shared family heritage. Ms. Lopez proudly wears her heritage on her sleeve—and she translated that passion literally with her most recent work, hand-crafted dresses made from stitched-together prints on tamale paper that dawn excerpts of Arizona's SB 1070 and her grandparents' immigration cards. Through her art, she starts a dialogue about racism, stereotypes, and the local art world—making poignant statements about Latino culture with her unmatched sense of humor.

A fourth-generation Arizonan, Ms. Lopez has always been a relentless advocate for our community. She has served as a board member for MARS, and as a panelist for the City of Phoenix and the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Ms. Lopez has exhibited her work in venues across the nation, including the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, the Phoenix Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, and the Arizona State University Art Museum. In the beginning of 2020, in recognition of her artistic excellence, Ms. Lopez was the first Latina artist to have her work displayed in the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.—cementing her legacy as one of the greatest artists Phoenix has ever known.

Ms. Lopez has given all her time, heart and soul to the betterment of Phoenix and Arizona. She has inspired so many young artists to achieve their highest aspirations, and those who learn from her enter the world with a greater appreciation for Chicano art history.

I humbly rise to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Lopez for immense contributions to our state. A dedicated artist, advocate, and community servant, her life's work remains a local favorite in Phoenix, and I wish her the best as she continues to create a legacy that will be felt by Arizonans for generations to come.

HONORING ECOS' ESSENTIAL
WORKERS

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor ECOS' dedicated essential workers from the sustainable manufacturing facility located in Lacey, Washington, in the 10th Congressional District.

Family-owned, women-owned, and operated since 1967, ECOS is known for being a pioneer of environmentally friendly and sustainable cleaning products. In addition to its facility in the South Sound, ECOS operates manufac-

turing plants across our nation, employing hundreds of Americans. Just this month, ECOS officially became a climate positive brand, stepping up as an environmental leader in Washington, and across the country, by regenerating more natural resources than it consumes.

Not only does ECOS play a leading role in the cleaning products industry as a climate positive manufacturer and embody a bold vision for a sustainable future, ECOS has also been an essential business in the fight against COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, ECOS' essential workers have been working around the clock to manufacture sustainable cleaning supplies.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that ECOS essential workers represent my district and my community in the South Sound. I want to personally thank and recognize them for their dedication and patriotism in making safe and eco-friendly cleaning products throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They are the frontline heroes that are powering our region and our nation as we recover, rebuild, and emerge from this pandemic on stronger, more sustainable footing. For all of these reasons, it is my privilege to recognize the tremendous contributions of ECOS' essential workers.

EXPLANATION REGARDING
COSPONSORING A BILL

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 7, 2021

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, it's appropriate for me to republish my statement of March 11, 2019 on the meaning of cosponsoring legislation. Much of that statement was a republication of my statement of September 29, 2010, as I've maintained a consistent policy on this issue. The following is a republication of my statement of March 11, 2019.

"Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, stated for the RECORD:

'Madam Speaker, I wish to clarify that when I cosponsor a bill, it does not necessarily mean that I agree with every part of it. At a minimum, my cosponsorship indicates that I support moving the bill forward through the legislative process, including being marked up in committee, and if sent to the floor by the relevant committee(s), then subject to consideration and amendment on the floor.'

Let me reiterate that 2010 statement and provide additional background. I believe in the legislative process. I believe bills are improved during committee mark-ups and by consideration of amendments on the floor. The effect of cosponsoring a bill is to signal to the relevant committee chair(s) that I believe the bill should be marked-up in committee, a process that may well improve the bill (and in some cases may make the bill worse). When I decide to cosponsor a bill after it has completed the committee process, I do signal to the Speaker and Rules Committee that I believe the bill should be considered on the floor, and almost always under an open rule."